



News Release



Shelby County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 13, 2013

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A Healthy Start: Reasons to Vaccinate Your Child

*National Immunization Awareness Month is a reminder
everyone needs vaccines right from the start and throughout their lives.*

MEMPHIS – Immunizations give parents the safe, proven power to protect their children against 14 serious and sometimes deadly diseases before they turn two years of age.

To celebrate the importance of immunizations for a healthy start and to make sure children are protected, the Shelby County Health Department (SCHD) is participating in National Immunization Awareness Month by posting facts and tips via social media.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShelbyTNHealth>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ShelbyTNHealth>

“Children who do not receive recommended vaccines are at risk of getting the disease or illness,” said Helen Morrow, M.D., health officer. “Every dose of vaccine is important to protect your child and others in the community against infectious diseases which are still threats today. Talk to your health care professional to make sure your child is up to date on all the vaccines they need.”

Today’s childhood vaccines protect against serious and potentially life-threatening diseases, including polio, measles, whooping cough and chickenpox.

- Immunizations can save a child’s life.
- Immunizations are safe and effective.
- Immunizations can protect others.
- Immunizations can save your family time and money.
- Immunizations protect future generations.

When children are not vaccinated, they are at increased risk and can spread diseases to others in their family and community, including babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated, and people with weakened immune systems due to cancer, advanced age and other health conditions.

Parents can find out about the recommended immunization schedule at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/index or by calling the SCHD Immunization Program at (901) 222-9329.

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